

MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH RETREAT MINUTES
Meeting Minutes
Administration Building
4041 N. Central Avenue, 15th Floor, Phoenix, Arizona 85012
Joshua Conference Room
May 29, 2009, 9:00 am

Ms. Adamic called the meeting to order with a quorum present.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Audrey Adamic
Don Cassano
Zuhdi Jasser, M.D.*
Michael Kearns *
Shannon Smith, RN
Mike Snitz
Brian Spicker *
Pam Wight

Members Excused:

Susanne Cook, RN, PhD
Maricopa County Supervisor Kunasek, District 3

Ex-Officio: Bob England, M.D.

(* Denotes members arriving after Roll Call)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Adamic advised that if anyone from the public is present at the meeting today who would like an opportunity to speak, a Speaker Request Form is available and must be filled out prior to addressing the Board of Health. The Board of Health cannot take action on but only discuss questions from the public under the Call to the Public section.

The meeting started with DISCUSSION ITEMS due to not having a quorum.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Role of Board of Health

-Ms. Mangiapane

Ms. Mangiapane began with information on the role of the board of health. Ms. Mangiapane provided notes of her presentation that are available upon request. She began with applicable statutes and resources with regards to the board of health, how many board of health members there are, how the board of health members are appointed and the term of each appointment. She also discussed the structure of public health in Arizona. As it relates to this board, the structure is as follows – Arizona Department of Health Services, Board of Supervisors, Maricopa County Department of Health and Board of Health.

* Michael Kearns arrived

The meeting went back to ACTION/DISCUSSION items with enough members present

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Approval of the April 27, 2009 BOH Retreat Minutes:

-Ms. Adamic

Mike Snitz made the motion to approve the April 27, 2009 BOH Retreat minutes. Michael Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote.

Shannon requested that her titles be placed after her name and that she be addressed either as Shannon or Mrs. Smith.

The meeting went back to DISCUSSION items so that the fee waiver discussion could take place before they voted on the fee waiver applications

2. Fee Waiver Discussion

-Mr. Power

Mr. Power, Director of Environmental Services was available to answer any questions that the Board had with regards to fee waivers.

Board members expressed concern for how much money was being utilized on fee waivers that could be given to other direct public health services. Mr. Power explained to the board members that they have always had the option of denying fee waiver applications.

The question was raised as to how fee waivers were given to the Board of Health for review. John Powers mentioned that Environmental Services use to be directly under public health but some time ago Environmental Services became separate from Public Health, however, the fee waivers remained a part of review for the Board of Health.

Board members also raised questions about how much time it was to collect the information that is collected for each fee waiver. Ms. Minichiello reported that it does take quite a bit of time to collect all the information from each organization to bring forth a report to the Board of Health.

Ms. Adamic also made the statement that everyone is free to vote however they choose. That each individual board member has the right to vote yes or no and that they are not obligated to approve any fee waiver.

The Board of Health came to the conclusion that each fee waiver application would be voted on separately and that Environmental services no longer needed to expend that much time on gathering the additional information from each organization.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

2. Fee Waivers

-Ms. Minichiello

Ms. Minichiello presented 37 fee waivers for the Board's approval.

*Fee Waiver 1 – Interfaith Community Care Peoria Adult Day Care – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship to the organization would be that they would have to add more fundraising activities to pay for the fee and that the organization would not cut services based on the denial of this waiver. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote.*

*Fee Waiver 2 – Sun City Adult Day Services – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship to the organization would be that they would have to balance the budget and that the organization would not cut services based on the denial of this waiver. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote.*

*Fee Waiver 3 – Mount of Olives Lutheran Church Food Closet – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote.*

**Dr. Jasser arrives*

Fee Waiver 4 – Survivors on our Own of Arizona – Mr. Kearns made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mrs. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 2 vote.

Fee Waiver 5 – East Valley Senior Center – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 6 – Chandler Christian Community Center – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **approve** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the organization would not be able to provide as much food for the poor. Ms. Wight seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4 to 3 vote.

Fee Waiver 7 – Vista Colina Family Shelter – Mr. Keanrs made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 8-12 – Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Mrs. Smith made the motion to deny this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion did not pass with a 2 to 4 vote, with 1 abstaining from the vote. Ms. Wight made the motion to **approve** this fee waiver application based on the additional information provided that states they would have less money to feed the poor. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4 to 2 vote, with 1 abstaining from the vote.

Fee Waiver 13-16 – The Salvation Army – Mr. Snitz made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Mrs. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 17 – Betania Presbyterian Church – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **approve** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states that this organization would not be able to provide as much food to the poor. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 2 vote.

Fee Waiver 18 – Phoenix Day Child and Family Learning Center – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship to the organization would be that they would have to balance the budget and that the organization would not cut services based on the denial of this waiver. Mr. Snitz seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 19-21 – Catholic Charities Westside Head Start – Mr. Kearns made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver. Dr. Jasser seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 22-30 – Boys and Girls Club of Metropolitan Phoenix – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization's application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship would be that the organization would have to cut back on supplies and food. Ms. Wight seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 31 – A New Leaf’s Riverboat Bingo – Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization’s application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states they would not turn people away and they would find the money elsewhere to provide the service. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 32-33 – Prehab of Arizona– Mrs. Smith made the motion to **deny** this organization’s application for a fee waiver. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

Fee Waiver 34 – Adult Day Care Phoenix(Foundation for Senior Living)– Mr. Keanrs made the motion to **deny** this organization’s application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship would be that the organization would have to balance the budget and would not cut the services. Mr. Cassano seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote, with 1 abstaining.

Fee Waiver 35 – Central United Methodist Church– Mrs. Smith made the motion to **deny** this organization’s application for a fee waiver. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6 to 0 vote, with 1 abstaining

Fee Waiver 36 – Saguaro Jane’s Inc. – Mr. Snitz made the motion to **approve** this organization’s application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states that the hardship to this organization would be that they would not be able to provide as much food to the poor and the seniors. Ms. Wight seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5 to 2 vote.

Fee Waiver 37 – Foundation for Senior Living Programs– Mr. Cassano made the motion to **deny** this organization’s application for a fee waiver based on the additional information that states the only hardship would that the organization would have to balance the budget and not cut back on services. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7 to 0 vote.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (continued)

Tom Keller and Fred Erickson with Knowledge Capital Alliance, Inc. presented on the strategic plan development that is taking place within the public health department of the county. They discussed how they have already completed the strategic plan with one division of public health which is the Community Health Services division and that the entire public health department is now taking the steps to complete the strategic plan. Mr. Keller and Mr. Erickson provided feedback to the board members on ways they can help influence the department. The board members asked if public policy was a better way to help influence the department from a board stand point. Mr. Keller and Mr. Erickson said they would be able to provide a complete strategic plan report for the entire department once they have finished.

1. Role of the Board of Health -Ms. Mangiapane

Ms. Mangiapane continued her presentation on the role of the board of health. She continued to discuss the duties of the director of public health as well as the duties of the Board of Health. A list of these duties was included in the notes that Ms. Mangiapane handed out. A copy can be generated upon request.

2. Open Meeting Law Refresher -Ms. Mangiapane

Ms. Mangiapane presented on open meeting law. She provided handouts to each member and those present that went along with her presentation. A copy of the handout can be

generated upon request. In this presentation, Ms. Mangiapane discussed the public body, advisory, standing, special and subcommittees, the definition of a meeting, staff member communication with the Board, notice of meetings, agenda items, agenda changes, minutes, the public's rights, legal advice, emails and public records.

Ms. Mangiapane made it very clear that a meeting can be considered in person or through technological devices such as phone, email and fax. Therefore, it is unacceptable to discuss board of health issues outside of established meeting. This includes discussion in emails with other board members.

It was also discussed that it is necessary to have a quorum. If we don't have a quorum can not have a meeting.

A copy of this presentation is available.

-Dr. England

Dr. Bob England presented the following matters to the Board.

Novel Influenza Update and Preparation – Dr. Bob gave an update on the H1N1 virus. He began with a discussion on the 20th century influenza pandemics. He then discussed the pandemic flu plans and what role we play as the public health department. He specified that surveillance, guidance, public info, medication and supply distribution and community mitigation are among some of the items in which public health oversees in these circumstances. Dr. Bob also discussed social distancing and the goals of community mitigation. The target categories for vaccination include military health professionals, children. The vaccination strategy for a severed pandemic would include several different tiers. Each tier identifies groups of people necessary to vaccinate. On February 27, 2008, the ACIP recommended a universal flu vaccination for children 6 months to 18 years. It is suggested that kids are the vectors. The attack rate is highest in children. A mathematical model for decreasing the number of flu cases entails vaccinating children first. By vaccinating 20% of children you can reduce total flu cases in US by 46% and by vaccinating 80% of children you can reduce total flu cases by 91%. The things to consider with regards to vaccine are things such as when, how much, how fast, how protective, requirement for schools, side effects, etc.

Dr. Bob does conclude that we will have more cases of this flu in the fall and that it may stay at the rate that it is but we have to prepare ourselves for worse situations and how to deal with that if/when it develops.

A copy of Dr. Bob's presentation is available.

Local Public Health Funding/Crisis Communication – Public health is assessment, assurance, public health policy development. Pubic health is not primary care, correctional health, animal control or medical examiner. The predominant local health funding source is passed through the federal government through grants. The per person funding from all sources for local health departments in 2005 is \$68 the fiscal year 2007-2008 budget for Maricopa County public health is less than \$14. We are one of the lowest counties in terms of spending money yet one of the highest populated counties in the US. Our budget cuts included 5% from Admin only, 5% overall, 16% additional (this was the elimination of Family planning and a large cut to TB Control). Overall 60 positions were eliminated. The result of this low local funding includes lasting health problems for many people, higher long term costs to the taxpayer and economic consequences.

Some of the things we can do with adequate funding include – ensure immunizations and better disease management (reinforce school nursing), coordinate community resources to impact and prevent chronic disease, proper disease investigating and prevention, proper emergency preparation, minimize deaths from influenza in older population and minimize health care burden, decrease escalating cost of health care.

However, the issues that hold us back are the lack of prioritization and funding (decades of), most work is in response to specific state mandates and grant deliverables, lack of staff to evaluate needs (assessment) and either provide service or guidance (assurance) and resources have not kept up with population.

Our options include accept current state, seek more funds (grants), pursue a public health district, pursue contracts with cities to expand activities within their boundaries, encourage city health departments.

Where do we go from here – The Board would like to know what they can do to encourage this. Dr. Bob says that assessment is the number one priority and right now we need funding for this. The Board would like to know if we can get someone from OMB to come to one of our BOH meetings. Another suggestion was to put a board of health member on the committee of AzPHA.

At the next meeting, the board would like to discuss maybe setting up and defining committees (i.e. – task force for public health district). Also, they would like Dr. Bob to provide his top ten priorities at each meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22, 2009.

Adjournment

Mr. Snitz made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kearns seconded the motion. The motion was passed with an 8 to 0 vote.